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Contact: Jake Davison  
(517) 373-7708

## **Gilbert Announces Committee Assignments for 2003-2006 Legislative Session**

*Senator Looks Forward to Bipartisan Cooperation*

**(LANSING)** – Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema today announced that Senator Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac, will serve as chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, vice-chair of the Agriculture, Forestry and Tourism Committee and will be a member of the Economic Development, Small Business and Regulatory Reform and Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs Committees for the 2003-2006 legislative session.

“I am excited that Senate Majority Leader Sikkema selected me to serve on these important committees – and I look forward to working with my Republican and Democrat colleagues to address the issues that face Michigan residents,” Gilbert said.

As chair of the Senate Transportation Committee, Gilbert will be responsible for managing legislation that affects transportation issues across Michigan by developing transportation policy and assessing infrastructure needs. Gilbert served as chair of the House Transportation Committee prior to his election to the senate.

Senator Gilbert also brings valuable small business experience to the Economic Development, Small Business and Regulatory Reform Committee as he has been a licensed funeral director since 1974.

“Jud Gilbert has proven that he has the experience and leadership that is necessary to serve on these committees,” Sikkema, R-Wyoming, said. “I am also grateful for his ability to work with Republicans and Democrats to address legislation that will continue to push Michigan forward.”

Gilbert serves the citizens of the 25<sup>th</sup> District, which includes all of Lapeer and St. Clair counties. He will officially be sworn into the Michigan Senate Wednesday, January 8.

Senate committees are expected to begin organizational meetings Tuesday Jan. 14.

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